Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

This application claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. section 119(e) based on ~~copending~~ U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/227,579, filed August 25, 2000, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety, and also claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. section 120 to U.S. Application Serial No. 09/516.793, filed March 1, 2000, now abandoned, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety and which claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. section 119(e) based on U.S. Provisional Applications Nos. 60/169,624, filed December 8, 1999, and 60/122,582, filed March 2, 1999, both of which are herein incorporated by reference in their entireties.

Please replace paragraph [0329] on page 68 and top of page 69 with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0329] A bioinformatics search of the cDNA libraries of HGS revealed a novel human CMP-sialic acid synthetase (CMP-SA synthetase, or CMP-SA) gene based on its homology with the *E. coli* DNA sequence. The bacterial enzyme includes a nucleotide binding site for CTP. This binding site contains a number of amino acids that are conserved among all known bacterial CMP-SAS enzymes (See Stoughton *et al.*, *Biochem J* 15:397-402 (1999). The identity of the human cDNA as a CMP-SA synthetase gene was confirmed by the presence of significant homology within the binding motif:

bacterial sequence:	IIAIIPARSGSKGL	(SEQ ID NO: 17)
identity/homology	+ A+I AR GSKG+	
human cDNA	LAALILARGGSKGI	(SEQ ID NO: 18)

Please replace paragraph [0380] on page 89 with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0380] The E. coli neuA coding sequence was used to query the Human Genome Sciences, Inc., (Rockville, MD) human cDNA database with BLAST software. One EST clone from a human prostate cell line demonstrated significant homology to neuA and was further characterized. The procedures used for Northern blotting, in vitro transcription and translation, and baculovirus cloning were the same as those described for work with ASA9. For PCR amplification, the forward primer, 5' - TGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGC*GGATCC***GCCATC**ATGGACTCGGTGGAGAA GG, (SEQ ID NO: 15) contained a synthetic T7 promoter sequence (underlined), a BamHI site (italics), a KOZAK sequence (bold) and a sequence corresponding to the first six codons of Cmp-Sas. The reverse primer, 5'- GTAC*GGTACC***TTACTA**TTTTTGGCSATGASATTATTAACTTTTTCC, (SEQ ID NO: 16) contained an Asp 718 site (italics), two in-frame stop codons (bold), and sequence representing the last six codons of *Cmp-Sas*.